

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

5 Claims 1-11 (cancelled)

Claim 12 (currently amended): A backlight source disposed under a display panel, the backlight source comprising a plurality of parallel U-shaped lamps, each of which comprises a bending portion, a high voltage electrode at one end and a low voltage electrode at another end of each of the U-shaped lamp, the U-shaped lamps being reverse disposed side by side along a first direction, each of the U-shaped lamps being bent in a reverse direction to the adjacent U-shaped lamps, so that the high and low voltage electrodes are positioned in two lines along the first direction, and the high voltage electrode of each of the U-shaped lamps is adjacent to the low voltage electrode of the same U-shaped lamps;

wherein each of the U-shaped lamps has an opening defined by its two ends and bending portion, and one end of each of the U-shaped lamps is positioned inside the opening of one of the adjacent U-shaped lamps;

wherein the low voltage electrode of each U-shaped lamp is not connected to the high voltage electrode of ~~another~~ any other U-shaped lamp in series.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The backlight source of claim 12 wherein the backlight source is installed in a direct-type backlight panel unit.

25 Claim 14 (previously presented): The backlight source of claim 13 wherein the direct-type backlight unit comprises a diffuser disposed between the display panel and the plurality of the U-shaped lamps for scattering a light source generated by the plurality of the U-shaped lamps to the display panel, a light diffuser plate disposed between the diffuser and the plurality of the U-shaped lamps for transmitting the light source to the

diffuser, and a reflecting plate disposed under the plurality of the U-shaped lamps for reflecting the light source to the light diffuser plate.

5 Claim 15 (previously presented): The backlight source of claim 14 wherein the direct-type backlight panel unit further comprises a housing disposed under the reflecting plate for surrounding the reflecting plate, and a bezel for assembling the display panel and the backlight source.

10 Claim 16 (previously presented): The backlight source of claim 12 wherein each of the U-shaped lamps is a cold cathode fluorescent lamp (CCFL).

Claims 17-19 (cancelled)

15 Claim 20 (previously presented): The backlight source of claim 12 wherein the backlight source further comprises a power supply for providing current and a control circuit electrically connected to the power supply for driving the backlight source.

20 Claim 21 (previously presented): The backlight source of claim 20 wherein the control circuit comprises at least one inverter electrically connected to the high voltage electrode and the low voltage electrode of the corresponding U-shaped lamp.

25 Claim 22 (previously presented): The backlight source of claim 21 wherein the inverter comprises a direct current/alternating current (DC/AC) inverter, a pulse width modulation (PWM) inverter or a series resonant parallel loaded (SPRL) inverter.